

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-10 and 12-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10, 12-17, and 19, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable by Veltman et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0152311, hereinafter “Veltman”). Claims 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Veltman in view of Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,243,707, hereinafter “Humpleman”). Claims 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Veltman in view of Bhatia et al. (U.S. Patent 6,052,803, hereinafter “Bhatia”).

Our comments with respect to these rejections are set forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10, 12-17, and 19, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable by Veltman. Applicant respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “an application proxy server which transmits a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network in accordance with an access request of the information appliances connected to the external network, and transmits contents which control an information appliance selected from the transmitted list, and, if a control command is transmitted, requests a function performance to a corresponding information appliance according to the requested control command.”

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner cites Veltman at paragraphs 46, 47, 99, 100 and 101 as disclosing the claimed application proxy server. However, these portions of the reference do not disclose the features of the application proxy server of transmitting a list of the information

appliances and the contents controlling an information appliance selected from the transmitted list.

Regarding this, the Examiner asserts, in Remarks at page 16 of the Office Action, that:

Veltman teaches the server sends the message to the user to “which device would you like to access?” and the user replies with the “storage” (list of appliances) in response to the access request of the storage device (information appliances) connected to the network, and then the DNS server replies with the internal IP address for the remote storage media device (transmits content which controls an information appliance selected from the list) and when the command is transmitted, it sends a default domain here “no29.bahnstrasse...” of the remote storage (function performance corresponding to the information appliance).

As in the Examiner’s statements above, Veltman merely teaches that the server sends the message to the user to “which device would you like to access?” and the user selects a specific device in reply. However, the server in Veltman is clearly distinguished from the application proxy server recited in claim 1, at least in that (1) the server in Veltman does not perform its function in accordance with an access request of the information appliances connected to the external network, e.g. Internet, because there is no access request of the information appliances connected to the external network in Veltman, and (2) the server in Veltman does not transmit a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Veltman at least because Veltman fails to disclose the claimed application proxy server.

Applicant also submits that claims 3-5 and 7 are dependent claims including all of the elements recited in claim 1, and therefore are not anticipated by Veltman at least because of their dependency from the independent claim 1.

Claim 10 recites:

wherein the step for providing the information on the information appliances connected to the internal network in response to the access request from the information appliance connected to the external network includes steps of:

providing a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network; and

providing, if any one of the information appliances is selected from the provided list, contents for controlling the selected information appliance.

In Veltman at paragraphs 46, 47 and 99-101 and Figs. 5 and 6, the display 8 displays the question “which device would you like to access?”, but does not provide information on the information appliances connected to the internal network including providing a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network. Accordingly, Veltman fails to teach the features described in claim 10, *inter alia*, “providing a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network if an access request is transmitted from an information appliance connected to the external network.”

As to the Examiner's assertion in Remarks at pages 16-17 of the Office Action, the above argument regarding claim 1 can apply as it is. That is, the server in Veltman performs its function in a way which is clearly distinguished from the method recited in claim 10, at least in that (1) no access request is transmitted from the information appliance connected to the external network in Veltman, and (2) a list of the information appliances connected to the internal network as recited in claim 10 is not provided in Veltman.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 10 is not anticipated by Veltman.

Applicant also submits that claims 12-17 and 19 are dependent claims including all of the elements recited in claim 10, and therefore are not anticipated by Veltman at least because of their dependency from the independent claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

With respect to the rejection of claims 8 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the Examiner admits, at page 9 of the Office Action, that Veltman fails to teach wherein the DHCP server, if an interruption request of the use of a private IP address is transmitted from an information appliance connected to the internal network, requesting the DNS server to delete the private IP address of the corresponding information appliance and contents related to the host name from the database.

The Examiner, however, cites Humpleman at col. 11, lines 28-39 as teaching this feature. A review of this portion of Humpleman indicates that Humpleman teaches a DHCP server 106 which dynamically updates a device list file as home devices are added and removed from the

home network 100. There is no teaching, however, that the DHCP server requests a DNS server to delete a private IP address of the corresponding information appliance and contents related to the host name from the database.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 20 are patentable over the combination Veltman and Humpleman.

With respect to the rejection of claims 9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as discussed above, Veltman does not teach the features described in claims 1 and 10, and Bhatia does not remedy all of the deficiencies of Veltman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that it would not have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to reach the invention described in claims 1 and 10 even by combining Bhatia into Veltman, and claims 9 and 18 are patentable over Veltman in view of Bhatia at least because of their dependency from the independent claims 1 and 10, respectively.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111
Application No. 09/900,460

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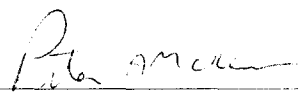
Respectfully submitted.

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER


Peter A. McKenna
Registration No. 38,551

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